



St. Louis Audubon Society



VOLUME 59, NUMBER 5

OCTOBER 1992

The Earth Summit in Rio in Retrospect

by Jim Holsen

This past June 35,000 participants, including more than 110 Heads of State, flew to Rio de Janeiro to attend the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and to agree to an agenda for action to protect our common environmental resources in the coming decades. Even before the meeting some people, like F. S. Rowland, President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, were asking which would be the more likely outcome—a major failure or an absolute disaster. But now, nearly four months after the event, it is possible to obtain a clearer perspective.

There were some failures. Target goals and timetables for stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions were deleted, the United States refused to sign the biodiversity treaty, and far too little money was pledged to implement Agenda 21, the action plan for sustainable development on this planet through the 21st century. Any discussion of the effect of population pressure on the environment was avoided.

The press focused on these failures and on such incidents as the memo that EPA Administrator William K. Reilly faxed to the White House, suggesting last-minute changes in the biodiversity treaty that, he thought, would make it acceptable to the United States. The suggestions were rejected and, to Reilly's embarrassment, that same day the memo was leaked to the press, allegedly by a member of Vice President Quayle's White House Council on Competitiveness.

November 12 Meeting Focuses on Earth Summit

Come to the Powder Valley Nature Center on Thursday, November 12, 1992, to participate in the symposium: The Earth Summit in Rio: Was It Worth It?

7:00 pm — Business Meeting

7:30 pm — Panel Discussion

9:15 pm — Questions and Answers

Moderator:

Bill Salsgiver

President, St. Louis Audubon Society

Speakers:

Bill Brandhorst

Board Member, St. Louis Audubon Society
"National Audubon's Assessment of Government Action Including that of the United States"

Sister Nancy Wittwer

Coordinator, Loretto Earth Network
"Biodiversity" & "The Women's Forum"

Ron Condray

Chemical Manufacturers Association
U.S. Council Arm of the International Chamber of Commerce
"Business Council on Sustainable Development"

Norman Lippman

Documentary Project Director, Missouri Botanical Garden
"Position of Indigenous People"

David Ferguson

Global Environment Team
"Alternate Climate Change Treaty"
"What is Going to be Needed?"

W. R. Palmer, a former Prime Minister of New Zealand, spoke recently at Washington University on the difficulties of reaching a consensus among the 170 sovereign members of the United Nations. He saw the need for an executive function responsible for the environment, an international agency that

would prepare strong proposals and fight for their acceptance. A Commission on Sustainable Development, created to implement Agenda 21, will not be stymied by a lack of consensus; it may act with a 75 percent majority if consensus cannot be achieved.

Individual participants were more enthusiastic—who could return from Rio and say it had not been worthwhile? Representatives of more than 1400 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) met in a Global Forum. The National Audubon Society was a leading participant among the NGOs.

These groups were often effectively organized, and their members left with the feeling that a basis had been prepared for effective cooperation in the future.

Fran Spivy-Weber, Director of International Programs for the National Audubon Society, found that "sustainable development and environment are now terms firmly embedded in the lexicon of most government leaders." Brock Evans, another Audubon delegate, found that the Summit was a powerful experience for its participants. Diverse groups, previously at odds, came to understand their common goals. These groups are determined to see that the blank spots are filled in and the treaties implemented.

For our November meeting Bill Brandhorst, St. Louis Audubon board member, has gathered a panel of St. Louisans who participated in the Rio Summit, an event that attracted the largest number of Heads of State ever to gather in one place. From them, we can learn of their personal experiences and expectations for the future.



From Your President

by Bill Salsgiver

We are all rejuvenated from a great summer and are ready to commence with our full slate of fall activities. As you can see from this newsletter, we have plenty going on in the next few weeks. Get out and enjoy the beautiful fall weather. While you're out, please stop by our displays at the World Bird Sanctuary (formerly the Raptor Rehabilitation and Propagation Project) Open House the weekend of October 31 and November 1 and participate in our own Bird Appreciation Day on November 8.

The St. Louis District Army Corps of Engineers is presently reviewing the Master Plan for the management of the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area. This is an opportunity to give your input into how you would like the Corps to manage the Riverlands. Our chapter will be offering its two cents' worth, you can be sure. If you would like to comment, call the Corps office to find out details of how and when, or call us and we will include your comments with ours.

I recently learned that the Nature Conservancy acquired a 20-acre parcel of land, which includes about one quarter mile of river frontage, at the Winfield Lock & Dam. The area is used as a roosting and feeding site by bald eagles during the winter months. This is an important addition to the Clarksville Island acquisition made by the Nature Conservancy in 1985. Now two sites that contain trees large enough for roosting eagles are protected. Plan a trip this winter to see our national symbol, only about a one-

hour drive from St. Louis. And a special thanks to the Nature Conservancy.

Oh yes, and don't forget to vote on November 3. Let your voice be heard; participate in the election process; exercise your "democratic duty."



UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Sunday Open House and Programs

Sunday, October 11 — Open House at Education Center from 11 am to 3 pm. Program at 1 pm by Woody and Helen Eckelkamp, who will show slides and tell about three safaris to different parts of Southern Africa.

Sunday, November 8 — Open House at Education Center from 11 am to 3 pm. No program—Bird Appreciation Day being held at the Kirkwood Community Center.

Sunday, December 13 — Christmas Party with Webster Groves Nature Study Society. Bring a holiday dish or cookies to share and enjoy the festivities.

St. Louis Audubon Public Symposia 1992-93

Thursday, November 12 — The Earth Summit in Rio: Was It Worth It?, 7 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center. See

list of speakers and background article on first page of this newsletter.

Thursday, March 11, 1993 — The Endangered Species Act: Making It Work, 7 pm at Powder Valley Nature Center.

Bird Walks

Meet at 8 am at designated site—all near St. Louis area. Coaching & instruction for all levels. Bring binoculars, bird book; dress for field conditions & season. Consider joining our scheduled group trips or birding on your own; see directions below.

Saturday, October 10 — Meet at Busch Wildlife Area-Hampton Lake parking lot just beyond gate at HQ. After lunch, those interested may go on to Marais Temps Clair marsh &/or to Riverlands. Guides: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972 and John Blake, H# 725-3480.

Saturday, October 31 — Meet at Riverlands; after lunch, on to Horseshoe Lake. Waterfowl should be very good to excellent. Guide: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972.

Saturday, November 14 — Meet at Horseshoe Lake, on Hwy 111 side at parking lot near entrance. After lunch, on to visit Riverlands. Guide: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972.

Saturday, November 28 — Meet at Riverlands and then upriver to Pere Marquette State Park, Stump Lake and beyond. Leader: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972.

Saturday, December 19 — The Pere Marquette Christmas Census. Call Irene Mondhink, H# 618-885-5233, or Helen Wuestenfeld, H# 618-498-5335, for more information.

(Christmas Bird Counts at Busch Wildlife Area and in St. Charles County will be announced in the December newsletter.)

Directions to Birding Locations:

Busch — In St. Charles Co., go south on Hwy 94 from US 40 one mile; west on Hwy D to entrance; pass HQ area, go through gate to parking lot by first lake.

Horseshoe Lake — East from downtown St. Louis on I-55-70 to Hwy 111 exit; north on Hwy 111 to park entrance at concession stand. Also can go east on I-270 in north St. Louis Co. across Miss. River to Hwy 111 exit; then south on Hwy 111 to park entrance.

Marais Temps Clair — North on Hwy 94 from I-70 through St. Charles to Hwy H; from Hwy H turn left at Island Rd.; go under RR & turn left at next road to small HQ bldg. & parking.

Riverlands — On Miss. River near Alton. Go north on Hwy 367 from I-270 in north St. Louis Co. Hwy 367 joins US 67 & crosses Missouri River; continue to last large gas station in MO & turn right into Riverlands. Meet at Riverlands map/sign just beyond gas station.

Special Events

Saturday, October 10 — "Forever Wild" by Walkin' Jim Stoltz, a multimedia celebration of wilderness with one of America's foremost folksingers & backcountry travellers. 8:30 pm at Washington University's Graham Chapel. All proceeds to benefit the Wolf Sanctuary. Call the Wild Canid Survival Research Center, 938-5900, for more info.

Thursday, October 22 — "May the Forests be With You" by Rachael Crandall, St. Louis Rainforest Alliance. Sponsored by the Sierra Club, program is free and open to the public. 8:15 to 9 pm at Litzsinger School, 10094 Litzsinger Rd., in Frontenac. Call the Sierra Club office, 645-1019, for more info.

Wednesday, October 28 — "Where Have All the Songbirds Gone" by Dr. Richard Coles, Director of Tyson Research Center/Biology Department, Washington University. Slide &/or video presentation from 7:30 to 9 pm at St. Louis Zoo Living World. Call 781-0900 for more info.

Wednesday, October 28 — "Dressing for Winter Outings," sponsored by the Sierra Club and held at Powder Valley Nature Center. 7 to 9:30 pm—panel members from local area sporting goods stores will exhibit & discuss new trends in outdoor winter clothing; Sierra panel members will share cold weather clothing & experiences. Call the Sierra Club office, 645-1019, or Carol Crebs, 432-8611, for more info.

Sunday, November 8 — Bird Appreciation Day Workshop & Birdseed Sale at Kirkwood Community Center. **ONE DAY EVENT ONLY!!** See detailed information and registration and birdseed order forms in this issue.

Riverlands Master Plan Reviewed

by Jim Holsen

In July the St. Louis Audubon Society, together with other environmental organizations, participated in a review of a draft Master Plan for natural resource management of the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area.

Riverlands, created in 1988 by the St. Louis District of the Corps of Engineers, includes nearly 50,000 acres of federal lands associated with dams and navigation pools on the Mississippi River in Missouri and Illinois. The draft plan emphasizes the Corps' commitment to conservation and environmental protection as well as balanced recreational use.

The Riverlands Area, east of Highway 67 and on the Missouri shore adjacent to the new Melvin Price Lock and Dam at Alton, has become a favorite spot for St. Louis birders, especially during spring and fall seasons for migratory waterfowl.

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For more information or to reserve your copy contact:
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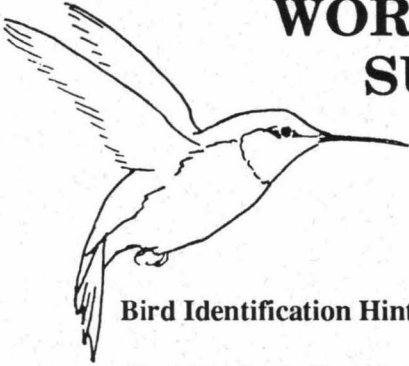
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You Can't Afford To Be Without It!

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
INVITES YOU TO

BIRD APPRECIATION DAY WORKSHOP AND BIRDSEED SALE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1992



Bird Identification Hints

Clothing & Birding Techniques

Helpful Publications

Mist Nets & Bird Banding
(Weather Permitting)

Handouts of Helpful Information

HELD AT THE
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 SOUTH GEYER ROAD
KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI 63122

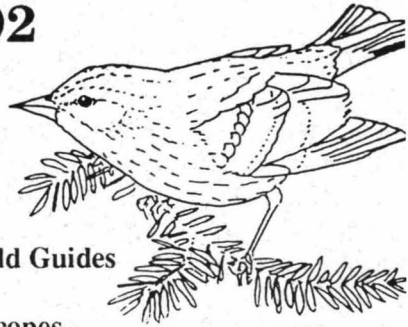
Picture Identification & Field Guides

Selection of Binoculars & Scopes

Where to Go Birding

Raptors—World Bird Sanctuary
(Live Birds on Display)

Display of Feeders, Bird Houses and Birdseed -
Tips to attract Birds to your yard



WHETHER YOU ARE A BEGINNING BIRDER OR ENJOY BIRDS AT YOUR FEEDERS,
THIS WORKSHOP WILL GIVE YOU LOTS OF INFORMATION AND HELP.

**REGISTRATION: \$4.00 DONATION. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE; FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE FOR
ADULTS AND YOUNG ADULTS ONLY—NO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS PROVIDED.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: HOME: _____ BUSINESS: _____



I WISH TO REGISTER _____ PERSONS

CHECK WHICH WORKSHOP YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND. (BOTH SESSIONS ARE THE SAME.)

CHECK HERE

WORKSHOP I

(12:00 to 2:00 PM) _____

WORKSHOP II

(3:00 to 5:00 PM) _____

(Allow at least 30 minutes before session for parking and check-in.)

IF THE WORKSHOP YOU CHOOSE IS NOT AVAILABLE, WE WILL NOTIFY YOU
AND MOVE YOU TO THE OTHER WORKSHOP IF AVAILABLE.

MAIL TO: MARY DUEREN, 1701 RATHFORD DRIVE, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63146
PHONE: 576-1473 FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY FALL BIRDSEED SALE

**BIRD APPRECIATION DAY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1992
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 SOUTH GEYER ROAD
KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI 63122**

The St. Louis Audubon Society is again conducting a birdseed sale to benefit the chapter's conservation and education programs. Buyers will be able to pick up their orders at the Kirkwood Community Center on November 8, the same date and location for the Bird Appreciation Day Workshop.

Feed and enjoy watching songbirds around your home by buying black oil-type sunflower seed, a premium seed type that attracts the widest array of songbirds in the Midwest. The sunflower seed will be available in 25-lb bags for \$8.00 each or 50-lb bags for \$13.00 each. To order, please complete the order blank below. Please mail in your order and check by October 30.

BIRDSEED ORDER FORM

(Please Detach Here, Mail This Portion In Along With Your Check)

[Please Print]

Name _____ Phone Day _____ Eve _____

Address _____

Number of 25-pound bags _____ x \$ 8.00 per bag = _____

Number of 50-pound bags _____ x \$13.00 per bag = _____

Total Amount (Check Enclosed) _____

Please Make Checks Payable to: St. Louis Audubon Society

Please Mail Order and Check to: Birdseed
St. Louis Audubon Education Center
389 Lewis Road
Crescent, MO 63018

AUDUBON ADVENTURES



The Education Corner

by Mary Dueren

Take Advantage of Fall Events

Once again, the autumn season finds the Education Committee planning many special events. Among these events are Bird Appreciation Day, bird walks, and Second Sunday Open Houses.

Note that Bird Appreciation Day is being held only one day, November 8, rather than the two days indicated earlier in the August newsletter. Bird Appreciation Day is also being held closer in town this fall instead of spring so we can coordinate with our Birdseed Sale. Look for more details in this newsletter.

Also check this newsletter under Upcoming Events for the bird walks and the Second Sunday Open Houses. We look forward to meeting many members and non-members alike at all of these events!

Audubon Adventures Update

We are off to a busy start in enrolling classrooms in Audubon Adventures for the 1992-93 school year. If you are interested in enrolling a classroom (third, fourth, or fifth grade), please contact me at 576-1473.

One of our biggest fund raisers for Audubon Adventures, the 1992 Birdathon, fell short of its goal of \$2,000. Although disappointing, we did raise enough funds to add 25 classrooms to the enrollment.

Many thanks for hard work go to Mary Lou Miller, Dave Pierce, Blaine Ulmer, and Mike Zeloski. I know the students who will receive Audubon Adventures will appreciate their efforts as well.

CCA Awards

by Kathleen Ash

The results are in for our first entry in the Community Club Awards (CCA), sponsored by the Cable Advertising Network of Greater St. Louis. Thanks to all of you who sent in receipts and labels and to the hard work of member Ginny Conger, the St. Louis Audubon Society came in 5th in its category and was awarded \$70.

As you have read in previous newsletter articles, this money is earmarked for the distribution of Audubon Adventures, the Society's environmental newspaper for elementary classrooms. There is potential for winning more money, and there are several more turn-in dates before the final December 1 deadline.

Please pull out, save, and post the sponsor list inserted in this issue so you can help in this relatively easy and worthwhile project. Send your receipts and labels to Kathleen Ash, 8690 West Kingsbury, St. Louis, MO 63124. If you have any questions, please call me at 991-2389.

Ginny Conger is moving to South Dakota with her husband, David, and two-year-old daughter, Zoe. We are all in her debt for her efforts and achievements in the education program.

What is Recycled Paper?

Nowadays, one can find everything from fast-food packages and tissues to greeting cards and annual reports bearing the words "made from recycled paper" or stamped with the "recycled" symbol. Yet these products could contain virtually any amount of recycled fibers—even none, in theory.

Moreover, even if they do have substantial recycled fibers, recycled papers may not necessarily contain postconsumer waste. Postconsumer waste includes paper used by consumers and collected for recycling.

Instead, manufacturers may rely on a variety of preconsumer wastes—damaged rolls and scraps from paper mills, trimmings from paper converting plants (where paper is made into forms, envelopes, etc.), even sawdust. Critics point out that these materials have long been reused in paper making, but using them fails to address the issues. Specifically:

*It does not alleviate the solid-waste crisis. Paper and paper products make up 40 percent of municipal solid waste—by far the single largest component.

*It does not encourage the manufacture of new or better de-inking equipment needed to remove ink from wastepaper before it is made into new paper.

*It exacerbates the confusion over what exactly is "recycled" paper.

A number of states have already established strong recycled paper standards, and several have labeling laws. More are sure to follow. The EPA is presently revising its standards for recycled paper, and Congress is looking at the issue in the pending reauthorization of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

As an individual, one has several options. Purchase paper with a minimum of 10 percent postconsumer content, and buy unbleached paper or chlorine-free paper whenever possible. Urge your state legislators to enact strong recycled paper standards and labeling requirements. Ask your senators and representatives to back strong standards when Congress reauthorizes RCRA.

(Article reprinted in part from Audubon Activist, September 1992.)

Lawn Care and Composting Subject of September General Meeting

by Jim Holsen

Lawn care and composting under Missouri's new landfill restrictions was the subject of the recent general meeting of the St. Louis Audubon Society held on Thursday, September 10, at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Missouri law now bans grass clippings, leaves, and most other yard and garden wastes from landfills. As a result, many municipalities are funding their own composting operations and encouraging citizens to recycle their own yard wastes through composting and simplified lawn care practices.

Speakers for the September program, arranged by Ron Darling, a former Vice President for Conservation, included Steve Cline, Director of the Kemper Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden, who described a Master Composting Program developed by the Garden with support from a Monsanto Fund, and Rich Hooremann, a faculty member with the local University Extension Service of the University of Missouri at Columbia, who discussed options for low maintenance lawns. Ron Darling concluded the discussion with a description of the municipal composting operation in the City of St. Peters.

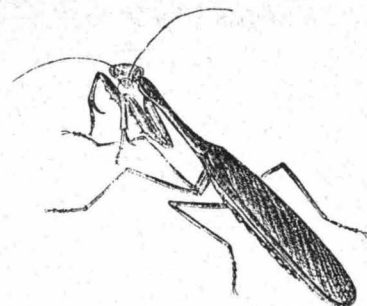
Compost, which utilizes both leaves and grass clippings, is used to enrich the soils of flower and vegetable gardens, as a mulch to improve soils around trees, and for house plants and planter boxes. Equal volumes of brown, carbon-containing materials (leaves) and green, nitrogen-contributing materials (grass clippings, table scraps) are required. Naturally occurring microorganisms are essential to break down the leaves.

Steve Cline described typical backyard composting bins, noting that cheapest is usually best. Passive composting, the lazy or low-effort option, involves throwing non-woody wastes into containers or holding bins and waiting—from six months to two years—for decomposition to occur. Active composts are managed (turned) to accelerate decay. Compost demonstration units can be visited at Carondelet Park; at Warson Park, on Olive near Monsanto; and in Kirkwood, at the Farmers' Market on Argonne. Speakers on composting and yard care can be arranged for a nominal charge through the Garden.

Rich Hooremann tackled the problem of achieving a visually attractive lawn at small expense in time and money. Options for low maintenance turf species include buffalo grass, common Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, fine fescue mixes, and Bermuda grass.

All have their trade-offs—varying resistances to stresses from drought, heat, disease, and wear. He advocated plant compatible management—the use of knowledge of plant growth cycles to maximize the efficiencies of inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, watering, and mowing. For mowing, "Cut it high"—to reduce heat stress and water demand. The University of Missouri Extension Service is working with the Garden to develop lawn care practices best suited to the Missouri environment.

To maintain normal waste-hauling services under the new restrictions, municipalities must develop their own large-scale composting programs. Ron Darling, responsible for environmental practices in St. Peters, described the response to the new law in that community. Active management, requiring capital investment in heavy equipment, is required to minimize composting time. St. Peters is working with a private environmental contractor who hopes to turn a profit on the operation.



ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check the membership category desired:

☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ Introductory/\$20

☐ Individual/\$35

☐ Family/\$40

☐ Sustaining/\$50

☐ Supporting/\$100

☐ Sr. Citizen/\$21

☐ Sr. Citizen Family/\$23

Name _____

Address _____

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State _____

Zip Code _____

Send application to:

Mrs. Katherine Chambers, Membership Chairman
St. Louis Audubon Society 7XCH
7024 Forsyth
St. Louis, MO 63105

Make membership checks payable to:

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
If you wish to make a donation to the local chapter, please write a separate check to:
ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Officers 1992-93

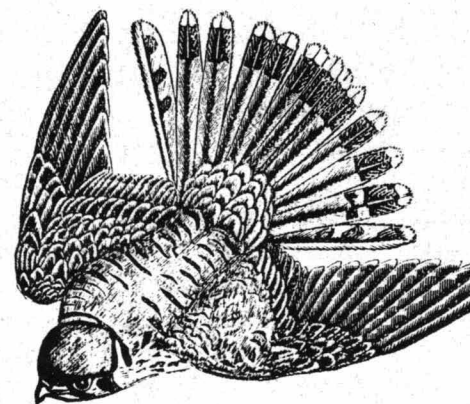
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Newsletter Information

The St. Louis Audubon Society's Newsletter is printed bi-monthly on recycled paper with soy-bean ink. No staples are used so as to make the newsletter more easily recyclable. Printing is done by Dolde Printing Co., 1350 Lonedell Rd., Arnold, MO 63010.

Please send any article submissions for the next edition by December 1 to Karen Tylka, 24 Anawood Dr., Arnold, MO 63010 (H# 296-1419).

Our Phone Number

To contact the St. Louis Audubon Society, please call (314) 938-6123.

St. Louis Audubon Society

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